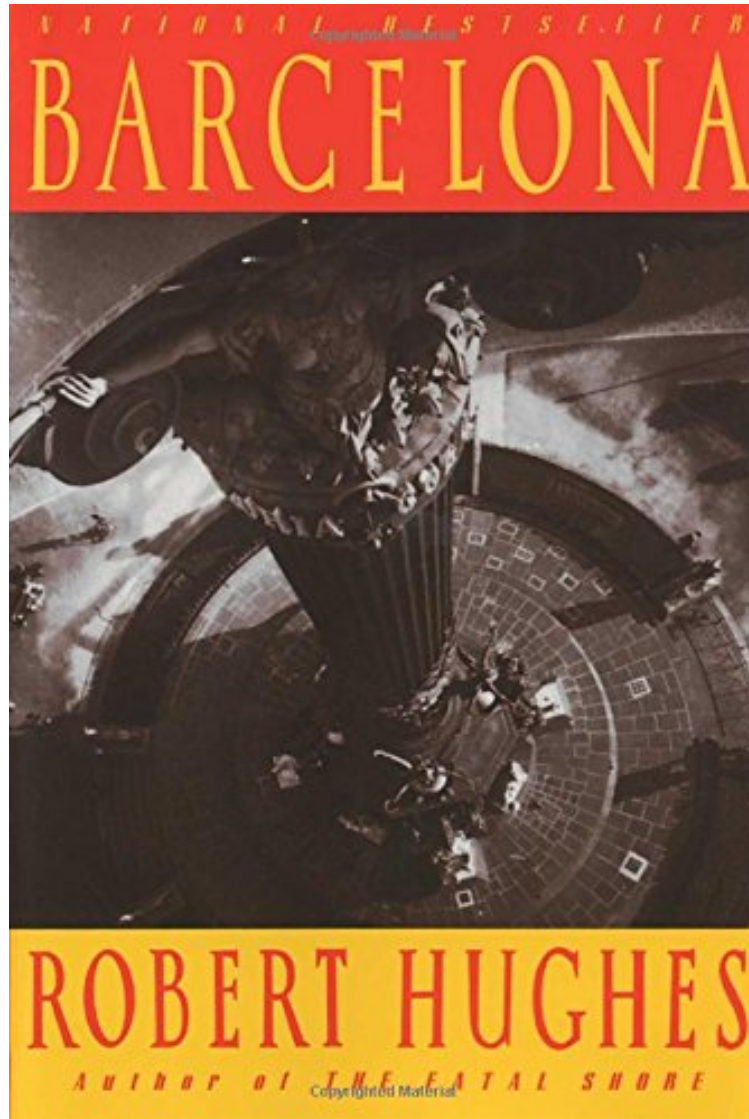


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Barcelona

Robert Hughes

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Robert Hughes : Barcelona before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Barcelona:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Fantastic Introduction to Catalan! By lilcreative What a fantastic introduction to Barcelona! This is a foray into almost everything Catalan. Social and artistic history is introduced in such a way as to make it spring to life from the pages - one feels as if they are moving through Barcelona in real time, be it modern Barcelona or in times past. One experiences political change, artistic development, the industrial

revolution, along with the development of Catalan language, culture, architecture, and history. I'm a flamenco aficionado through and through, and plan on studying dance in Barcelona in the near future. I now feel utterly and completely ready for this journey, and am excited to view the city with this solid introduction to its history - I feel my time there will be all the richer for having danced through the pages of Hughes' "Barcelona." 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Brilliant and fascinating By RGARCHI I'm not a history buff. I got this book in preparation for a trip to Barcelona. I'm enjoying this book so much more than I imagined. The author is witty and had me drawn in at the first page. The information and insights are fascinating. I'm learning about areas of Catalunya I wasn't aware of and it's cause met o schedule additional day trips I didn't know about before reading this. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Barcelona, well worth a visit. By owen Hughes' masterful history of Barcelona is detailed and rich with descriptions, explanations, and critiques of everything from economics, class cultures, and art to architecture and politics. Gaudi is well explained and Hughes' talent as an art critic shines through.

A monumentally informed and irresistibly opinionated guide to the most un-Spanish city in Spain, from the bestselling author of *The Fatal Shore*. In these pages, Robert Hughes scrolls through Barcelona's often violent history; tells the stories of its kings, poets, magnates, and revolutionaries; and ushers readers through municipal landmarks that range from Antoni Gaudi's sublimely surreal cathedral to a postmodern restaurant with a glass-walled urinal. The result is a work filled with the attributes of Barcelona itself: proportion, humor, and seny the Catalan word for triumphant common sense.

From Publishers Weekly Hughes's historical-cultural treatise on the Catalonian capital sparkles on the topic of architecture. Photos. Copyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc. From School Library Journal YA-- The throbbing beat of flamenco guitars and the clicking of castanets resound as readers peruse the pages of this epic history. Founded as an encampment by Roman invaders around 210 B.C. , Barcelona passed through centuries of strife until it reached its "Golden Age" between the years 1850 and 1925; it is on this era that Hughes focuses. Aficianados of his descriptive, colorful prose style from such bestsellers as *The Fatal Shore* (Random, 1988) and *The Shock of the New* (McGraw, 1981) will not be disappointed with this work, and students of architecture will be especially pleased with the author's detailed comparisons of the city's varied structural styles. A must book for students of modern Spanish or European history and culture.- Richard Lisker, Fairfax County Public Library, VA Copyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal The acclaimed author of *The Fatal Shore* (LJ 11/1/86) and *The Shock of the New* (LJ 2/15/81) brings to life that "great enchantress" of the Mediterranean with the same panache and elegant prose readers have come to expect. Barcelona's literature, painting, complex politics, vivid personalities, and cunning entrepreneurship through 1500 years are ingeniously interwoven. The result is a brilliant tapestry keyed to the city's architecture from its medieval Gothic splendors to Antoni Gaudi's dominating "delayed baroque" style and the present transformation associated with the forthcoming Olympic Games. Hughes's lengthy and thoroughly researched narrative lucidly delineates those historical factors generating the intense cultural nationalism of Spain's Catalonia and its great metropolis. Highly recommended for public and academic libraries. History Book Club and Quality Paperback alternates; previewed in Pre pub Alert, LJ 10/1/91.- William F. Young, SUNY at Albany Lib. Copyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc.